

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00

DHA-02 SAM-01 BIB-01 EB-07 /095 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6588

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11446

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UR US XG

SUBJECT: ECPC DISTORTION OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT

REF: STATE 177231

1. WE MIGHT WELL CONSIDER WHETHER MATERIAL ON DISTORTIONS
OF FINAL ACT IN BERLIN DOCUMENT AS INCLUDED IN PARA 2(C) REFTEL
SHOULD BE PRESENTED NOT ONLY TO NEUTRALS BUT TO SOVIETS AND
EE GOVERNMENTS AS WELL.

2. THE SOVIETS ALMOST NEVER LET AN OPPORTUNITY PASS TO PROTEST
PERCEIVED INCONSISTENCIES OR ALLEGED INCONSISTENCIES IN WESTERN
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STATEMENTS ON CSCE AND ARE IN THE PROCESS OF CONSTRUCTING A

PUBLIC RECORD OF WESTERN VIOLATIONS OF THE "SPIRIT AND LETTER" OF THE FINAL ACT IN PREPARATION FOR THE BELGRADE MEETING NEXT YEAR. IT WOULD APPEAR TO US TO BE IN OUR INTEREST TO GO ON THE RECORD CLEARLY WITH OUR OWN VIEWS ON SOVIET AND EE DISTORTIONS, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN THE ECPC DOCUMENT, SINCE THE RELATION OF THE BERLIN MEETING TO CSCE MIGHT WELL FIGURE IN DISCUSSIONS AT BELGRADE.

3. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THERE IS LITTLE PRECEDENT FOR CITATION OF COMMUNIST PARTY DOCUMENT, SUCH AS THAT PRODUCED IN BERLIN, IN OUR DEALINGS WITH THE SOVIETS AND DEFER TO THE DEPARTMENT'S JUDGMENT AS TO WHAT FORM ANY SUCH PRESENTATION SHOULD TAKE. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE SUPREME ROLE OF THE PARTY IN EVERY FACET OF SOVIET LIFE IS CLEARLY ENSHRINED IN THE SOVIET CONSTITUTION. THIS WAS GRAPHICALLY ILLUSTRATED BY THE FACT THAT BREZHNEV AND OTHER EAST EUROPEAN LEADERS SIGNED THE FINAL ACT IN THEIR CAPACITIES AS FIRST SECRETARIES OF THE VARIOUS PARTIES AND NOT AS GOVERNMENT HEADS. WE THEREFORE FEEL THAT THE COGENT MATERIALS NOTED IN REFTEL SHOULD ALSO BE PRESENTED TO THE SOVIETS AND EAST EUROPEANS AS PART OF OUR PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE.
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